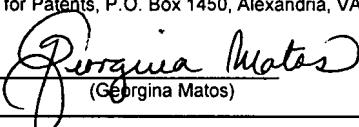


APR 09 2007  
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Air Mail No. EV 582596285 US on the date shown below in an envelope addressed to MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: April 9, 2007      Signature:   
(Georgina Matos)

Docket No.: 578492000510  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Rodolfo A. MORALES et al.

Application No.: 10/776,682

Confirmation No.: 3785

Filed: February 10, 2004

Art Unit: 3734

For: DEVICES AND METHODS FOR HEART  
VALVE REPAIR

Examiner: M. Ryckman

### **AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

### **INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

This is in response to the non-final Office Action dated November 30, 2006, for which a response was due on February 28, 2007. Filed herewith is a Petition and fee for a 2 month(s) extension of time, thereby extending the deadline for response up to, and including, April 30, 2007. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Additionally, filed concurrently herewith is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested. Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper. The Remarks begin on page 5.